

# Rail Transportation Division



## Mission Statement

- The Rail Transportation Division provides education, information and technology advances for the Rail Industry - comprising operators, suppliers, academia, and government. Through its efforts, productivity and safety of the rail system improves.



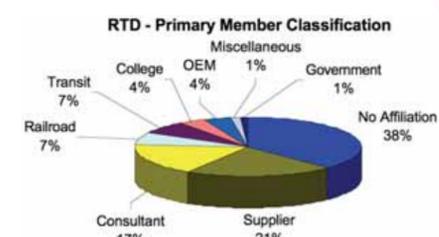
## Objectives

- To promote the art and science of Mechanical Engineering in the rail transportation industry
- To afford mechanical engineers a forum for discussion and solution of problems encountered in the field of Rail Transportation Mechanical Engineering
- To serve freight, passenger, rapid transit and locomotive transportation equipment suppliers and users
- To reach into areas of common interest with other divisions of ASME and other organizations and societies
- To encourage R & D and the publication of significant developments
- To encourage the interchange of ideas among engineers
- To promote high-speed passenger rail transportation

## Membership

Membership Reflects all Major Industry Segments

TOTAL DIVISION  
MEMBERSHIP = 2400 (APPROXIMATE)



Supplier
Consultant
Railroad
Transit
College
OEM
Miscellaneous
Government

## Industry Participation / Conferences

RTD Facilitates 2 Technical Conferences per year which present new developments, designs, concepts, and problem solutions from an international perspective

- Conferences Feature
    - 35-65 Technical Papers Presented
    - Average Attendance of 100 Industry Experts
    - Technical Tours of Local Points of Interest
    - Table-Top Exhibits and Proceedings Ads
- Create Exposure for Industry Partners

Each Spring features a Joint Rail Conference which has grown to seven participating societies: ASME, ASCE, IEEE, AREMA, TRB, APTA and INFORMS.

## RTD - Publications & Awards

- Publications: Semi-Annual RTD Newsletter
- Proceedings for two conferences per year
- Awards: Arnold Stucki Award - In recognition of eminent achievement by a member of the RTD in advancing the science of mechanical engineering in the field of RTD.
- Distinguished Service Award - In recognition of distinguished service by a member of the RTD.
- Terrey Hawthorne Memorial Scholarship Award - Annual scholarship of \$2000 awarded to students to encourage presentation of papers.
- Best Paper Award - Presented annually to the best paper presented during prior year's technical conferences.

## TERREY HAWTHORNE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

- On March 16, 2004, the railroad industry lost a much respected engineer, and a valued friend. We honor him the Terry Hawthorne Memorial Scholarship for his dedication to the railroad industry and ASME in a career spanning 48 years.
- The Rail Transportation Division awards scholarships toward expenses for students submitting and presenting a technical paper at an RTD technical conference.

## Short Range Goals

- Membership**  
Under revitalized leadership, the membership chair and committee are developing strategic initiatives including but not limited to:
  - A personalized campaign for new members within the identified customer base and internationally.
  - Use RTD conference to promote membership.
  - Create enthusiasm within current active RTD members to recruit new members.
  - Analyze membership statistics for facts and trends.
- Leadership Personnel**  
The success of the Division is very dependent on volunteer leadership. These volunteers must be identified from the Division membership and moved up through the various committees and chairs. With the various paradigm shifts in the industry, care needs to be taken to review/modify the industry/academia plan as laid out in the Division By-Laws. Other critical strategic issues include but are not limited to:
  - Filling committees with potential leaders.
  - Considering the creation of new committees and/or elimination of existing committees.
  - Review/create a list of duties or expectations for all committees.
- Conferences**  
The Division Chair with the Executive and General Committees shall explore ways conferences can facilitate the long-range goals of the Division, including but not limited to the following:
  - Joint conferences with other ASME divisions and other societies with common interests in the rail transportation industry.
  - Maintain control of conference budgets, making sure that each conference meets expenses and provides a surplus.
  - Increase participation in the Joint Rail Conference with ASCE, IEEE, AREMA, TRB, APTA and INFORMS.
  - Meeting during conferences for critical strategic and tactical planning not efficiently done by teleconference.
  - Increase the value of conferences to attendees by maintaining the quality of technical papers to be relevant to current technology and industry needs.
  - Honors and awards should play an important role at every RTD Luncheon at conferences

Every conference conclusion should include a meaningful critique, and in the case of Joint Conferences, planning for future conferences.

## Long Range Goals

- The Rail Transportation Division of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME-RTD) shall be the pre-eminent technical group providing documentation of technical (mechanical) information regarding the design, construction, operation, regulation, safety, and maintenance of locomotives, freight and passenger rolling stock.
- The ASME-RTD shall be the central focus of continuing mechanical engineering education in the railroad field, including the providing of credit toward professional certifications for participating engineers.
- The ASME-RTD will have the respect and support of its operations at all levels of companies, institutions, and regulating bodies involved with the aforementioned pursuits since nearly 100% of the engineers in those organizations are active members. It will be respected by industry for being impartial and a major contributor to helping resolve technical debate on critical industry issues.
- To the greatest extent possible, the ASME-RTD will be a net revenue generator, enhancing its own outreach and contributing to achieve the Society's goals and objectives, organizationally, functionally, and financially. The Division will continue its outreach to other related technical organizations and provide leadership in those relationships.